

Slips, Trips, and Falls

Slips, trips, and falls incidents have been an increasing problem at Marshall Space Flight Center. In response, MSFC S&MA is conducting some safety awareness programs to try to inform our workforce of this increasing problem. Many slips, trips, and falls occurrence and severity can be minimized if a few simple guidelines are followed.

Slips, trips, and falls have three basic causes. First, a lack of attention paid when doing simple tasks. Second, inadequate maintenance or housekeeping of the work area or surface being walked upon. Third, failure to use proper care when carrying large or heavy objects.

Stay tuned in May 2001 to the SHE Bulletin and Inside Marshall for the interactive presentation highlighting Slips, Trips and Falls.

ARE YOU STRESSED?

The Principal Center for Occupational Health has developed a training module on "Effective Stress Management" which is available at <http://www.ohp.nasa.gov/Cope/welcom.htm>. The module is not password protected and is available to all employees. Included is an anonymous self-test for stress with a scoring mechanism.

The Safety Dispatch is published by the Contractor Safety Forum at Marshall Space Flight Center

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HOUSEKEEPING IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR JOB

by Jennifer C. Thompson

Housekeeping is a very important part of your job. Not only does it improve the overall appearance of your shop or work area, it shows that you take pride in where you work. The best way that you can help keep your work place clean is to pick up after yourself! Don't leave it for the next shift or another craft to worry about.

Here are some reasons to keep your work area clean:

- You reduce trip and fall hazards.
- Increased production. You won't have to waste time looking for a misplaced tool. You will always know where your tools are when you put them where they belong after you use them.
- If someone falls because of materials you left on the floor, you will feel guilty because you were a causal factor in the accident. Also, the injured worker may want to remind you of that!
- You reduce a potential fire hazard by removing unneeded combustibles from the work area.

Here are some tips to maintain a clean work area:

- Plan the job. Make a list of the needed tools/materials. This will help to minimize unnecessary clutter around your work area.
- Develop a routine for cleaning up at the end of the shift or periodically during the shift.
- Do not allow employees to eat, drink or smoke in the work area, not only because of litter problems, but also because of hygiene concerns.
- Take responsibility for yourself and your work area! Remember, a clean work area is productive and safe!

PEP TRAINING MODULES

Training to help improve your organization's Safety Performance Evaluation Profile (PEP) survey scores is now available on the Safety, Health and Environmental (SHE) Web Page http://msfcsma3.msfc.nasa.gov/she/pep/int_she.htm. All supervisors need to review this material with their employees prior to the PEP Survey scheduled to start May 14, 2001.

MOTORCYCLE DRIVER SAFETY COURSE

The Industrial Safety Office is conducting a survey to determine how many people would be interested in a Motorcycle Driver Safety Course, at not cost to the employee. The Alabama Traffic Safety Center offers an "Experienced Rider Course" for those who have been riding for 1 year. If you are interested, please send e-mail to judy.milburn@msfc.nasa.gov with your name, organization, and phone number, or contact Judy Milburn, at 544-4802, by April 30.